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ABSTRACT

The text serves as a guide and comprehensive summary of tips for building collaborative school cultures. The focus extends beyond the typical attempts at parent involvement to the more significant goal of promoting true collaborative partnerships. It features a parent survey as a means for educators to understand parent perceptions and identify needs, and it underlines the importance of this process in identifying those areas that require change. Each component of the survey is explored by a chapter called a "design." These designs focus on such topics as creating a school environment for learning, communicating effectively, promoting supportive relationships, developing shared expectations, involving others productively, and supporting teaching and learning. The text emphasizes the need for shared responsibility, for tailoring partnership to each school, and for translating research into practice. Many strategies and scenarios are included to illustrate the process, and reproducible pages are provided to facilitate use of the text. (Contains approximately 150 references and an index.) (RJM)

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